

In the claims:

Claim 1 cancelled.

2. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein the first operating switch (107) and the second operating switch (108) are positioned essentially at right angles to each other.

3. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein the power tool (100) includes a side handle (103) and a top handle (102), the first operating switch (107) being located on the side handle (103), and the second operating switch (108) being located on the top handle (102).

4. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 3, wherein the side handle (103) and the top handle (102) transition into each other, thereby essentially forming a right angle (106), the first operating switch (107) and the second operating switch (108) being located on opposing surfaces (109, 110) within this angle (106).

Claims 5-6 cancelled.

7. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein the connecting element (113) is made of sheet metal.

8. (currently amended) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein the power tool (100) includes ~~a guide~~the slanted surface (117, 118) for the connecting element (113).

9. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein the first operating switch (107) is connected with an adjusting slide (114), the adjusting slide (114) converting a motion of the first operating switch (107) into an electrical variable.

10. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein the power tool (100) is a jigsaw.

11. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein the first operating switch and the second operating switch are each directly fastened to the flexible connecting element.

12. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein the flexible connecting element has a top end and a lower end and a first flat sheet surface and a second flat sheet surface, and wherein the first operating switch is fastened to the lower end, the second operating switch is connected to the top end, and both of the operating switches are fastened to the same flat sheet surface.

13. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein engagement of either one of the first and second operating switches will turn on the tool.

14. (previously presented) The power tool as recited in Claim 18, wherein the flexible connecting element is curved and defines an obtuse angle.

Claims 15-17 cancelled.

18. (currently amended) A power tool, comprising with a first operating switch (107) for turning the power tool (100) on and off, ~~wherein the power tool (100) includes a second operating switch (108) for turning the power tool on and off, and wherein~~ means for mechanically coupling the first operating switch (107) and the second operating switch (108) ~~are mechanically coupled with each other via,~~ said coupling means including a flexible connecting element (113) which is formed as a sheet element, ~~further comprising and~~ a slanted surface, over which the flexible connecting element formed as a sheet element being configured so that it is flexibly guided on the slanted surface with a surface contact therebetween.

19. (previously presented) A power tool as recited in claim 18, wherein the slanted surface is curved, and the flexible connecting element is configured so that it is curved and flexibly guided on the slanted surface.

20. (currently amended) A power tool, comprising with a first operating switch (107) for turning the power tool (100) on and off, ~~wherein the power tool (100) includes~~ a second operating switch (108) for turning the power tool on and off, and ~~wherein~~ means for mechanically coupling the first operating switch (107) and the second operating switch (108) ~~are mechanically coupled with each other via~~, said coupling means including a flexible connecting element (113), ~~further comprising~~ which is formed as a sheet element, and a ramp, over which the flexible connecting element ~~being configured so that it~~ formed as a sheet element is flexibly guided ~~on the ramp~~ with a surface contact therebetween.

21. (previously presented) A power tool as recited in claim 20, wherein the ramp is curved and the flexible connecting element is configured so that it is curved and flexibly guided on the ramp.